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IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

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1-2-03

In re the application of:

SHIMANUKI et al.

Art Unit: 1724

Serial No.: 09/764,391

Examiner: Bushey, Charles S.

Filed: January 19, 2001

Attorney Dkt. No.: 106145-00016

For: HUMIDIFIER

RESPONSE UNDER 37 CFR §1.121

Commissioner for Patents  
Washington, D.C. 20231

Date: December 9, 2002

Sir:

In response to the outstanding Office Action dated June 7, 2002, please consider the following amendments and remarks.

IN THE SPECIFICATION

Please amend the Specification as follows. Pursuant to 37 C.F.R. § 1.121, as amended, a copy of the marked-up version of the Specification is attached to this Response showing the changes made therein.

On page 1, please amend the paragraph starting at line 25 as follows:

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A conventional humidifier utilizing hollow fiber membranes is disclosed in Japanese Laid-open Patent Publication No. HEI-7-71795. As shown in Fig. 14, a humidifier 300 comprises a housing 300, on which is provided a first inlet 302 for introducing dry air and a first outlet 303 for discharging the dry air (humidified dry air). A